

BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

John M. Brown, Jr.
Chairman

Russell J. Anzalone
Secretary



Robbyn Tumey
Member

Kim Dennison
Election Coordinator

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MINUTES OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

January 28, 2015

Election Commission members Present: Russell Anzalone, Robbyn Tumey, and Mike Sevak

Others present: County Clerk Tena O'Brien, Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Sharon Rose, Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler, Serena Green, and John M. Brown, Jr.

Media: Tom Sissom, Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette

County Clerk Tena O'Brien called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and stated that the purpose of this meeting is to swear-in the newly elected Benton County Election Commissioners. County Clerk O'Brien stated that after the Oath of Office has been administered, she would entertain a motion to elect the chairperson for the Benton County Election Commission. County Clerk O'Brien administered the oath of office to Russell Anzalone, Robbyn Tumey, and Mike Sevak. Commissioner Sevak made a motion that Russell Anzalone be elected as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. County Clerk O'Brien asked if there were any other nominations. There being no further nominations, Russell Anzalone was elected by voice vote as Chairman of the Benton County Election Commission.

Chairman Anzalone made a motion that Robbyn Tumey be elected as Secretary and that Mike Sevak be elected as the third member of the commission. Chairman Anzalone asked for discussion. There being no discussion, the motion carried by voice vote.

Minutes:

Chairman Anzalone asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from April 8, 2014 through September 23, 2014. There being none, Chairman Anzalone made a motion that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business:

Election Coordinator Kim Dennison stated she received an abstract of the 2014 General Election held on November 4, 2014 from the Secretary of State's Office that needed signatures from Commissioners Anzalone and Tumey.

New Business:

- A. **Discussion of 2015 – 2016 Elections:** Kim stated that she received a call from JP Susan Anglin who is the contact person for the Vaughn Presbyterian Church (Pct. 20). JP Anglin informed the commission that the church would not be available for future elections; however, she stated that the Benton County Fair Grounds board met and approved the use of their facility as a voting location, at no charge. Kim stated that JP Anglin would give her all of the contact information in the next few weeks. Commissioner Tumey asked Kim how many voters are in the Vaughn area. Kim responded that there are approximately 3,000 registered voters and it is growing. Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler reported that there are currently two precincts that have over 3,000 registered voters, and three more precincts that are close to reaching the 3,000 per registered voter precinct limit. Kim stated that the commission can look at creating more precincts, which does not necessarily mean creating more polling sites. Sharon Rose reported that the commission had been asked to remove the War Eagle Mill (Pct. 51) as a voting site, due to them having limited space, however, there is a fire station located in that area that has been made available to the commission to use for future elections.

Other Business:

Kim announced that Washington County Election Coordinator Jennifer Price is hosting meetings with three vendors who want to demonstrate their voting equipment: (1) Unison Voting Solutions on February 3, 2014 at 10:00 A.M.; (2) ES&S on February 24, 2014 at 10:00 A.M.; and (3) Hart Voting Solutions on March 3, 2014, time to be announced.

Public Comments:

The former Chairman of the Election Commission, John Brown, Jr., expressed confidence in the new commission and stated that it had been a pleasure to have served on the commission for the past seven or eight years and wished the new commissioners good luck.

Commissioner Tumey officially welcomed Serena Green to the Election Commission as a full-time employee.

Announcements:

None

Adjournment:

Chairman Anzalone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbyn Tumey, Secretary
Prepared by Sharon Rose
Benton County Election Commission